

Message Text

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43/47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-01 INR-05 IO-10 NEA-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 SWF-01

OMB-01 AEC-05 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INT-05 L-02 NSC-05

PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03 SS-15 STR-01 FEA-01 /111 W

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P R 071402Z DEC 74

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 4655

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 OECD PARIS 29425

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (REFERENCE NUMBERS ADDED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

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SUBJECT: IEA: DEC 5-6 IEA STANDING GROUP MEETING ON

PRODUCER/CONSUMER RELATIONS (SPC): TIMING OF PRODUCER/
CONSUMER CONFERENCE

REF: A) OECD PARIS 29422 B) OECD PARIS 29424

1. THIS CABLE REPORTS DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE OF
TIMING OF PRODUCER-CONSUMER CONFERENCE AT DEC. 5-6 SPC
MEETING. SEE SEPTELS FOR GENERAL REPORT ON MEETING,
AND DISCUSSION OF IEA POSITION RE DEC 12 OPEC MEETING.
CHAIRMAN'S NOTE ON TIMING ISSUE CONTAINED PARA 4 BELOW.

2. AT FIRST SESSION DEC. 5, SPLIT QUICKLY DEVELOPED
OVER TIMING OF PRODUCER-CONSUMER MEETINGS. UK
INTRODUCED CONCEPT OF "PARALLELISM" AND EXPLAINED IT AS
MEANING THAT WORK SHOULD MOVE FORWARD, WITHIN IEA, ON
LONG-TERM COOPERATIVE PROGRAM AT THE SAME TIME AS, I.E.,
IN PARALLEL WITH, IN-HOUSE PREPARATIONS FOR ULTIMATE
PRODUCER-CONSUMER MEETING. HOWEVER, OTHER COUNTRIES,
NOTABLY CANADA, GERMANY, SWEDEN, THE NETHERLANDS,
BELGIUM AND SPAIN, EXTENDED CONCEPT OF PARALLELISM TO
MEAN THAT IEA SHOULD INITIATE EARLY CONTACTS WITH
PRODUCERS, AND THAT THIS DIALOGUE SHOULD PROGRESS IN
PARALLEL WITH DEVELOPMENT OF CONSUMER SOLIDARITY WITHIN
IEA. USDEL REITERATED FAMILIAR USE POSITION THAT A
CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE CAN ONLY BEGIN AFTER BASIC
DECISIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN AMONG CONSUMERS TOWARD A
DURABLE SOLUTION OF ENERGY SUPPLY CRISIS. ONLY DENMARK
SUPPORTED IN GENERAL WAY US POSITION, ALTHOUGH UK AT
SEVERAL POINTS STRESSED NECESSITY OF CAREFUL PREPARA-
TIONS IF PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE IS TO BE PRODUCTIVE.
JAPAN DID NOT SPEAK DIRECTLY TO THIS ISSUE BUT MERELY
STATED THAT TIMING MUST BE CONSIDERED CAREFULLY IN VIEW
OF EVOLVING MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. (JAPANESE INDICATED
TO US PRIVATELY THAT THEIR INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO
RESERVE ON TIMING ISSUE AT SPC MEETING IN LIGHT OF
ANTICIPATED DISCUSSION OF THIS PROBLEM AT UPCOMING
MARTINIQUE SUMMIT.)

3. AFTER LENGTHY ATTEMPTS TO DRAFT AGREED LANGUAGE ON
TIMING, CONSENSUS DEVELOPED THAT IT WAS PREMATURE FOR
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SPC TO TRY TO REACH DECISIONS ON PROCEDURAL ISSUES SUCH
AS TIMING. CHAIRMAN THEN PUT FORWARD FOLLOWING AS HIS
PERSONAL SUMMING UP OF THE DISCUSSION. (NOTE: IN FINAL
SENTENCE OF FIRST PARAGRAPH WE ATTEMPTED TO CHANGE

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PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03 SS-15 STR-01 FEA-01 /111 W

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 4656

INFO AMEMBASSY ANARA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 OECD PARIS 29425

"MOST DELEGATES" TO "A NUMBER OF DELEGATES." THIS
ELICITED UNIFORMLY NEGATIVE RESPONSE BY OTHERS.)

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4. BEGIN TEXT: THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION WITHIN THE GROUP ON THE EXACT DEGREE OF URGENCY WITH WHICH FORMAL, ORGANISED MULTILATERAL DISCUSSIONS SHOULD BE PURSUED. THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT THIS PROCESS SHOULD BE ENVISAGED AS A CONTINUING SERIES OF DEVELOPING CONTACTS RATHER THAN AS A SINGLE CONFERENCE; AND THAT THERE IS THEREFORE ROOM FOR PRELIMINARY CONTACTS OF VARIOUS KINDS BEFORE A FORMAL CONFERENCE TAKES PLACE. MOST DELEGATES EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT SUCH PRELIMINARY CONTACTS SHOULD BEGIN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, IN PARALLEL WITH THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE CONSUMERS POSITION, AND WITHOUT WAITING UNTIL PERFECT ACCORD HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN CONCERTING THE CONSUMER COUNTRIES' LINE AND BUILDING UP THEIR PRACTICAL SOLIDARITY ON THE BASIS OF THE LONG TERM CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME; BUT SOME HELD THAT EVEN PRELIMINARY CONTACTS SHOULD WAIT UNTIL SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE ON THE LONG TERM CO-OPERATION MEASURES.

THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT TIMING WAS IN ANY CASE TO SOME EXTENT DEPENDENT UPON EVENTS AND OPINIONS OVER WHICH THE CONSUMER COUNTRIES HAD NO CONTROL; BUT THAT THERE WAS NO REASON WHY THE CONSUMERS SHOULD NOT MEANWHILE CONCERT THEIR LINE UPON THE ISSUES WHICH WOULD IN ANY CASE HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED WITH THE PRODUCERS WHETHER IN CONTINUING BILATERAL OR MORE FORMAL MULTILATERAL CONTACTS. END TEXT

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Type: TE
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